Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Older Americans bring a lifetime of skills and experience as parents, workers, and citizens that can be tapped to meet challenges in our communities; and,

Whereas, For more than four decades Senior Corps, and its three programs–RSVP, Senior Companions, and Foster Grandparents–have proven to be a highly effective way to engage Americans ages 55 and over in meeting national and community needs; and,

Whereas, Each year Senior Corps provides opportunities for nearly 330,000 older Americans across the nation, including 3,773 Senior Corps volunteers serving in their communities across South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Senior Corps volunteers last year provided more than 96.2 million hours of service across the nation, including 772,812 hours in South Dakota, helping to improve the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, strengthen our educational system, protect our environment, provide independent living services, and contribute to our public safety; and,

Whereas, Senior Corps volunteers build capacity of organizations and communities by serving through more than 65,000 nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based community groups nationwide, 845 of which are in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, At a time of mounting social needs and growing interest in service by older Americans, there is an unprecedented opportunity to harness the talents of more than 55 volunteers to address community challenges; and,

Whereas, Service by older Americans helps volunteers by keeping them active, healthy, and engaged. It helps our communities by solving local problems and helps our nation by saving taxpayer dollars, reducing healthcare costs, and strengthening our democracy; and,

Whereas, The fourth annual Senior Corps Week, taking place May 6-10, 2013, is an opportunity to thank Senior Corps volunteers for their service and recognize their positive impact and value to our communities and nation:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 6-10, 2013, as

SENIOR CORPS WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State